

Our Times Dispatch

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1906.

Hope is the morning auras of joy,
and memory its red evening sky.
There is nothing under the starry
sky so great as hope.—Rehder.

The People and the Corporations.

The New York Central Railroad has
been convicted of giving rebates, and
fines amounting to more than a hun-
dred thousand dollars have been im-
posed.

The Standard Oil Company has been
convicted in Ohio of "conspiring to re-
strain trade," as charged in the indict-
ment, and heavy fines imposed in that
case.

As for the New York Central, one of
the Wall Street writers says that the
finding of the jury is a blessing in dis-
guise.

"It is well worth one heavy fine," says
the writer, "to teach New York Central
its lesson—for that fine, however heavy,
can be but the barest fraction of what
henceforth will go into the railroad's
treasury instead of into surpitious
pockets. Earnings can now become real-
legious gross and banko not superseeded.
The railway world is split, the in-
vestor is safeguarded; every substantial
interest is advanced by the stern work
which the government, through United
States District Attorney Silliman, has
accomplished. And this governmental cam-
paign for fair transportation has impor-
tance far beyond our local lines—it being
indeed already an official announcement
that the same character of clarifying pro-
ceedings will be forthwith vigorously
pressed in every part of the country.
The law is going to be obeyed."

It is strange that railroad companies
will persist in this practice seeing that it
is both lawless and against their own in-
terests. But they are learning.

In the Standard Oil case, Attorney-Gen-
eral Eliot said that it was a great triumph
for good government.

"It is gratifying," he added, "to note
that the law can reach the highest as
well as the lowest. No one wants the
Standard to retire from the State. We
want its business and its enterprise, but
we demand that it conform to our laws
and come out into the open and cease to
mask itself under subsidiary companies."

That is the voice of the people. No
foolish-minded man wants to oppress the
corporations, drive them out of business
or interfere with any of their legitimate
rights. But the public have determined
that they shall obey the laws, and if they
fail to do so, they will be punished. Nor
will the public be satisfied in merely
imposing fines; if the law is not obeyed
the officers will be held to personal ac-
count, and by and by some of them will
find themselves in prison.

The Educational Awakening.

The biennial report of Mr. L. W. Hill,
Superintendent of Education for the State
of Alabama, is an important recoil which
are interested in the educational pro-
paganda and the development of the pub-
lic school system. The Birmingham News,
in commenting on the report, says that
the people seem actually to have fallen
in love with young Fiske upon themselves
as a good purpose.

"Thirty-seven counties, embracing 2,000
districts, have already voted the general
tax upon themselves for school purposes.
The measure has failed to receive the
three-fifths vote in only four counties.
Quite a number of counties will vote on the
measure at the State election in November.
The money raised by local taxation in the
several counties, like that approved
by the State, can be used only to pay
teachers' salaries and the expenses of
the officers will be held to personal ac-
count, and by and by some of them will
find themselves in prison."

Altogether it is a pretty lively election
for an "off year in politics."

A Comparison.

The Circle Sentinel, organ of the Anti-
Suffrage League of Virginia, gives Hon. H. P. Bruce, of the Ninth District, a clean
bill of health. "It is a pleasure," says the
Sentinel, "to state that Mr. Bruce is
temperate in practice and recognized as a
quiet, high-toned gentleman in favor of
temperance reform."

One of the most interesting contests
is in the new State of Oklahoma. This
state is composed of the old Territories
of Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The
former was Republican in its leaning,
while the latter was Democratic. As
the election of two United States Senators
is involved in the result, each party is
striving for the mastery.

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That is a fine testimonial for Demo-
cratic candidates. It is a tribute to Mr.
Bruce, no less than to the party which
nominated him. The Sentinel is not a
Democratic newspaper. It is entirely in-
dependent of party organization. It voices
no independent and non-partisan
opinions and measures candidates upon
their merits.

Of Mr. Fiske, Mr. Bruce's opponent, it
says that "his record was given two years
ago, and the same is before the people."
This inference is, and that is the fact,
that Mr. Fiske's hands have not changed.

How can the voters of the mountainous
region where he stands be expected
to know that his record was given two
years ago?

A monkey in New York got loose, and
after glancing his charge a few days
ago, on the elevated road. He finally
tried to ride on the "train" and that was the end of monkey. This story
teaches that not even a monkey may
safely monkey with a fire wife.

"I am not going to be the next Pres-
ident," said Secretary Taft while passing

through Richmond on his way home from
Cuba. Mr. Fairbanks has probably pasted
the dispatch in his scrap-book.—Chicago
Record-Herald.

Is it possible that Mr. Fairbanks can-
not see a joke?

Odd Causes for Suicide.

One exponent of advancing civilization
in the higher value put upon human life.
Yet, almost paradoxically, the tendency
to suicide increases with the march of
civilization. Man grows less regardful
of his own life. It seems, as he becomes
more careful of the lives of others.

People nowadays kill themselves for any
reason or for no reason at all. A Western
lady took her life the other day because
she could not get a servant girl. Fortunately,
this point of view is not very common.

If all of us killed ourselves when we
went short of a cook, we should soon be
a nation of dead men.

The Chicago Tribune quotes from some
unmentionable source a number of cases of
suicide.

A Pittsfield, Pa., man cut his throat
because his wife did not furnish him with
onions for dinner. The cuisine also
figured in the demise of the Pittsburgh
body who swallowed carbolic acid because
she feared her husband was not satisfied
with her cooking. A Maine farmer, dis-
appointed in the work of a new harrow,
put the offending tool on his shoulders,
jumped into a brook and drowned it.
Pennsylvania seems to figure conspicuously
in the records upon which we are drawing. It was a Keystone State
girl who killed herself because her lover
was late in keeping an appointment, and
a school boy of the same State, who, op-
pressed by the fact that he was the only
male in his class, drowned himself be-
cause he was too bashful to talk to the
girls. Not much sympathy, perhaps, at-
taches to the case of the Los Angeles
maiden who shot herself because she was
gaining flesh too rapidly to suit her.

In Oriental countries where life is un-
usually plentiful, it is held proportionately
cheap. A Chinaman, it is said, will
cheerfully commit suicide merely to please
or inconveniences a neighbor. It seems
that Anglo-Saxons, when under an em-
otional stress which temporarily upsets
reason, are nearly as carefree of their
lives. China itself could hardly furnish
a less majestic reason for suicide than
the absence of onions from the dinner
menu.

The November Elections.

Interest in the forthcoming elections
centres in New York, with Massachusetts
as a close second. But there are other
interesting contests. In Colorado the
Democrats are running Alva Adams for
Governor, who was elected two years
ago, but was removed by a Republican
Legislature in favor of Governor Peabody.
Governor Peabody resigned under
pressure of clarifyng pro-
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In Nevada they will choose Congress-
men, and the election of a Senator. In
Congress is involved in the contest. Mr.
William J. Bryan is taking an active
part in the campaign, and the result
will be something of a defeat or triumph
for that distinguished gentleman, accord-
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Kansas is having a gubernatorial fight;
but the prohibition question is involved.

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